

I Cannot but Love and Admire You, because I see those Graces in You, that bespeaks You to be a Gracious Prince, and the more I think of Your Excellency, Your great Humility and Coudescension, the more I love, and the greater is my desire to God for Your Majesty, that the Almighty would vouchsafe to deliver his Anointed from all the Temptations and Subtily of Man, that none of their D-signs may take effect; for I know they speak like Angels, but they intend like Devils: under the Notion of Gods Glory and his Churches Good, they did not care if they had but the Power, they would destroy Nations and Kingdoms, and in destroying them, they would destroy the Members of the *True Church*. For in a word, their whole Spite and Envy is against *Her*, tho to Men they pretend to own *Her* at the greatest rate imaginable; but God knows, it is to promote their own Greatness and to keep the People in Ignorance and Blindness, that they may Idolize them for holy and good Men, when they are inwardly as ravenous as Wolves, and haters of all True Vertue and Piety, if it doth not come by their Means, and that they own their Way: I must needs say that some of the *Roman Catholicks* are brave and worthy Men, but for the *Priests* and *Jesuits*, *Good Lord deliver me from them*, for (many Years ago) they have lifted me up to Heaven, and in the same Breath they did sling me down to Hell, when they out of a pretended Love and Zeal to Convert me, did say then, that they had Converted Your Majesty, and they said they should Convert the Nation; but I was Angry, and I told them, *That Gods Hand was against them*, and *that they were Perversers and not Converters*, and I said to them as Christ said to the Scribes and Pharisees, *Woe unto you Hypocrites, for ye will compass Sea and Land till you have made a Proselyte, but when he is so made, he is three-fold the Child of Hell more than he was before*: but nothing would scare them, whatever I said, for they laid strong Siege every day one or other for several Weeks together, till I set my self in a Fall to give the late King a *Petition*, to shew what Designs they had to pervert this Nation, and I was certain if they did that, he would never have good Subjects; for it is wholly impossible, if they practice what they said to me: for I found them implacable Enemies to the Church of *England*, and they did not care what Opinion people were on, so they could but make them Enemies to the Church of *England*; so I saw plainly they had a design to destroy instead of curing, for they can dispense with all manner of Sins and Wickedness, altho that provokes God Almightyes Wrath; and as for Faith and Self-denial, it is no matter whether they have that or no, if they believe as their Church believes: so I find they were Enemies to the *True Church*, for her Faith is her Foundation, and her relying upon the Merits of her Crucified Saviour, and imitating him, is her only Hope; for there is none can be Sav'd without Faith, Hope, and Charity; but I found that the Church of *Rome* hath not Faith, nor Charity, nor Self-denial, for if she had Faith, what need is there of Supplicating either Saints or Angels, but to God alone? And if she had Charity, how could she judge all to be Hereticks and Damn'd that did not Communion with her? And having not Faith, they have not Hope that God would pardon their Sins, but they have set up *Purgatory*, and their Hopes is in that, that after some time lying there, leaving good store of Money behind them, to have a great many Prayers said, to pray them out. O! Damnable Design of the Devil to cheat Men of their Souls! So I see plainly this is no *True Church*, for she is grounded upon the Sands, and not upon that Infalible Rock, my Precious Saviour, that hath deliver'd my Soul from the Subtily of the *Priests* and *Jesuits*, who would have devour'd it, that I might stand up for his Worship and declare his Truth, and Pray for his Anointed, and to Pray for all others, that God would give them Faith, and strengthen them in the Day of Temptation: And through the Merits of my Precious Saviour, I hope I shall have that Power from God, that I shall stand against Ten thousand that oppose his Truth, for Truth shall overcome the World. And now, Precious Sovereign, if I have found Grace and Favour in Your Sight (who loves nothing above Your present and eternal Good) don't let Your Majesty be displeas'd with any thing I have said, for it is nothing but what I have heard and know to be Truth; for I have not the Nature of *Priests* and *Jesuits*, who aims at their own Greatness, for I value You above all Your Kingdoms; for my Love is so True to Your Majesty, that if I was sure I should gain the whole World to do Your Majesty any Hurt or Injury; no, I would not do it. But to serve Your Majesty, I could venture my Life, if I had a Hundred Lives I would Sacrifice them all to do You Good, and nothing grieves me so much in this World, as the fear of Your Majesties being Corrupted, and I am sure if God had not kept You and given You Wisdom to withstand Temptations, Your Majesty would not have been so Good by the hundreth part as Your Majesty is, and God knows there is nothing in this World (except the Joy of God) that Rejoyces me so much as to hear People speak Well of Your Majesty and Praise You; for I cannot but do it wherever I go: For was not Your Majesty Gracious in giving me a Paper, and I found You as a Prophet, for Your Majesty told me, It would Comfort me, and I thank God so it has, for I have found nothing in it that can make my Precious Sovereign whom my Soul loved, to be a *Roman Catholick*, neither is there any thing to scandalize His Memory, that I so highly esteeme, for I had rather to be a Sacrifice, or torn in a thousand pieces, than to have his Memory to be Abus'd or Evil-spoken of, now he cannot speak for himself; for I count it a great Glory to be True to their Friend, tho they are dead and gone; for He is not Dead to me, tho he is Dead to the World, therefore I shall speak as much for

his Memory as I would for his Person when he was alive: Therefore I see nothing in these *Papers* that will do any hurt to that, and if I had read the *Papers* before, I should not have thought them worthy of Three Days Fast, for I find them but Weak, and the common Arguments of the *Roman Catholicks*, and they have us'd the same to me, and if His late Majesty did write them down, being the substance of a Discourse, he doth not plainly say it is his Opinion, but if he had, that was no Argument that he was a *Roman Catholick*, but a *True Apostolick Catholick*, for there is no *True Apostolick Catholick* but must own that *Christ hath but one Church upon Earth, and believe 'tis as visible as the Scripture*; surely it is Truth, for by that *She* is manifested: but I find there is a great Mistake in one thing, as to say, *That the Romish Church is that True Church*, for the Scripture plainly demonstrates that she is not, and therefore that shall be her Judge; therefore as the *Paper* says, *That there is no need of entering into Disputes*, but however, there is great need to bring her to the Truth and Light of Gods Word, for by the Power of that, all must be Justified or Condemned, then will she see plainly that she is not now that *True Apostolick Church*, but she is fallen from it; and for her to say, *She is Infallible and cannot fall*, she deceives her self, for Christ declares to the contrary, when he comes to Examine the Seven Churches of *Asia*, how Christ threatens them to remove their Candlestick; and what is that but to depart from them: but because he delights not in the fall of any Church, He bids them remember from whence they were fallen, and bids them Repent and do their first Works, or else I will come to thee quickly, and will remove thy Candlestick out of its place, except thou Repent: Therefore Your Majesty may see there is no Church but it is subject to Errors; but for Gods Spiritual Church, the Infallible Truth, *Mystery of Mystery*, that can never Err, for that is in the Breast of God, for he only is the Keeper and Instructor of that; but as for the Temporal Church, he gave his Apostles power to build Her, and She is builded, and I do verily believe that She hath Power to Bind and to Loose, for it is impossible but that *Christs Church* should have his Power and his Spirit, for they are the Visible Marks of His *True Church*, tho sometimes there may be some Disgust for some Offence or other, that She may think She is forsaken; and think She hath lost Her Crown Jewels that made Her to be known to be the *Church of Christ*, and so rest satisfied with out them, and never use Her Endeavours to gain them, but out of Modesty denies them, and thinks that She don't stand in need of them, because She hears that others makes their boast of having them, therefore She is ashamed to own them, because She thinks She hath them not, when God knows he never took them away from Her, but only hid them and darkened them, because She did not prize them as She ought to have done; therefore he suffered the Adversary to Triumph over Her, in boasting of that that they had not, to see whether this would work upon Her, to make Her to seek and desire those Jewels that She had so slighted, that he might Deck Her and Beautifie Her with those Ornaments, that he might once more delight in Her. O if She does but seek and desire them, She shall have the Power to wear them and to use them: surely She hath been long enough Toyling in the Wilderness to be weary, the Lord send Her well out; for when She comes, She will put an end to all our Differences, for She will own all the Apostles Doctrine, and stand by all their Doings. And as for the Church of *England*, tho there may be some things said against Her, there is no Church Truer than She. I wonder that any one can condemn any from separating from the *Church of Rome*, when God hath commanded it, and saith, *Come out of her my People, lest ye be partakers of her Plagues*, and sure heavy Judgments must come to that Church that hath fallen from God to Man, and from Righteousness to Wickedness, and from the Spirit of Truth to Lying and Deceiving, and is not contented to be so her self, but would corrupt all others; and God knows, that too many have Drunk of the Cup of Fornication, for most of Mankind is Corrupted by the Filth thereof; for it grieves me to see how that the most part of Men, their Lives and Conversations is no more like Christians than Light is to Darkeness; for if Men feared God, how dare they to wrong the Widow and Fatherless, when God has plainly declar'd, that he will be a Husband to the Widow, and Father to the Fatherless; and if they did truly love God, how could they slight his Commands, and rob him of his Honour: I must confess I hate Superstitious Vanities, but I love the Almighty, and think nothing too much that he hath; but it grieves me to think that this Nation should lie under such a Curse as the robing the Church of her Lands, for there was no reason because she had bad Stewards, to be depriv'd of all; the greatest Injustice in the World, for they should still employ'd it in Charitable Uses. Oh! what a sin Sacrilege is, for they will never prosper that have her Lands; it his wrath came upon those that touch'd the Ark how much more would it come upon those that rob'd it. Therefore I humbly beseech your Majesty to restore the Church her Lands so far as you are able, then will your Majesty be instrumental to turn the Curses of Church and State into Blessings. O the Almighty Sanctifie the Hearts of all Mankind, that they may bring forth such Fruits that they may be known to be Good Christians, then will this Kingdom be Happy, and the People Blessed, and Your Majesty Glorious in being a King over such a People that seeks the Lord, and hates to be unjust, then Justice and Mercy shall meet together, and Truth and Righteousness kiss each other, then God will rejoyce in the Works of his own Hand, which the Lord Grant. And so God save Your Majesty and Defend You from all Your Enemies, is the Prayer of

Your Humble Servant, Subject, and Souls well-wisher ELINOR JAMES.